

Stark County Democrat.

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CANTON, OHIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1898.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

LUCID ARGUMENT

Why the Workhouse Board Should be Maintained.

ADDRESS FULLY ANSWERED.

A Prominent Canton Republican, One of the Heavy Taxpayers of the City Writes a Communication Concerning Workhouse Matters.

Editor News-Democrat:—As a Republican I voted for each member of the present board of commissioners; as a taxpayer I am interested in securing economy in the public finances; as a law-abiding citizen I desire the punishment of criminals and the discouragement of crime. But I protest against the folly of the movement to put the workhouse in charge of the commissioners.

The county decided to build a workhouse, and upon its management by a non-partisan board of trustees. It was the intention to keep the workhouse out of politics. The board selected and now managing it is being attacked simply because it has ignored politics in the choice of a superintendent. The petition to the commissioners requesting the resignation of a member of the board, and the resolution offered by one of the commissioners both so recite in so many words. Had a Republican succeeded Mr. Pontius when his term of office expired, no one would have heard a word about workhouse management. But because the board, acting in a non-partisan way, happened to re-elect a Democrat, it is suddenly discovered that the law is all wrong and the commissioners are the proper parties to control.

The reasons for the proposed change in the law and management are set forth in an "address" over the signatures of some excellent citizens of the county, but the "address" is the work of one of the commissioners. This "address" begs the entire question in the outset, for if, as it asserts, "It is conceded by everyone whose opinion is worth having, that so far, the management of the workhouse has been a miserable failure," why need "everyone" be appealed to to petition the legislature to amend the law? "Everyone" constitutes public opinion, and if all are agreed no such strenuous appeal would be necessary.

The "address" says the commissioners should succeed the board for several reasons: First, because prisoners from other counties have been taken and kept at a loss; second, because the workhouse has not been run in the interests of Stark county; third, because "a multiplicity of boards creates a division of responsibility, which ought to be avoided wherever possible;" fourth, because the board has power to contract bills which the commissioners must pay; fifth, because the commissioners are elected by the people and are responsible directly to the people, while the board is appointed and therefore not responsible. The answer to these arguments is not hard to make.

First, it is untrue that prisoners from other counties are being maintained at a loss. The cost of running a workhouse includes the officing, guarding, lighting, heating, etc. If only Stark county prisoners were kept there would be a very trifling reduction in the expense as the same corps of officers and guards, and the same expense for lighting and heating and for repairs would remain. There is an actual profit in the keeping of each prisoner brought in from an outside county. The experiences of other workhouses and prisoners show this. The state of Ohio keeps from 600 to 700 prisoners for the U. S. government all the time, making a handsome profit, and these prisoners are maintained at a less daily price than is paid to the workhouse.

Second, "The workhouse has not been run in the interests of Stark county." In whose interest has it been run, then? The board serves without compensation. It was not run in the interest of the board. The estimates made by the county surveyor show road improvements to the extent of \$7,000, of which the county gets the entire benefit. If the commissioners manage the workhouse they must still employ officers and guards and pay running expenses. There is no more reason to suppose that the commissioners will be more loyal to the interests of the county than the very capable and honorable gentlemen who have held the appointment of trustees.

Third, "If the argument that a multiplicity of boards divides responsibility, and should therefore be avoided, is carried out to its extreme it leads to autocracy; to the placing of all power in the hands of one man, or one set of men, and the citizens of Stark county are scarcely ready for that. But this is not a question of multiplicity of boards, but of management. There is but one board in any event, and the question resolves itself back to the proposition whether that board shall be a special board or the commissioners. The question will be dealt with farther on.

Fourth, The "address" asserts the board should be abolished because it has power to contract bills while the commissioners must pay, and over which the commissioners have no supervision. Every state institution in Ohio is governed by a board with similar power, limited only by the appropriation for the maintenance of the institution. The board of health has like powers. If there is any force in the argument the entire system for the government of all public institutions is wrong. There is no claim that the gentlemen comprising the board are dishonest, or that they have contracted unnecessary bills, or that the commissioners would be more economical in management. There is constant agitation upon the administration of county affairs, and questions of extravagance have been raised against commissioners

in times past. And this brings us to the fifth proposition.

The "address" would imply that the commissioners must be more capable than the board they appoint, because they are re-elected by the people, while the board is only appointed. It would appear then that the commissioners have shown a lack of capacity in this particular if they have selected a board incapable of managing the workhouse. If this be true, would it not cast grave doubt upon the ability of the commissioners to manage the institution themselves?

There is no desire to attack the commissioners, either as a body or as individuals, but it is a matter of common notoriety that it is a matter of common notoriety to the present commissioners the highest integrity and average ability, it may well be questioned if private individuals or corporations would select men of similar experience for the control of equal amounts of money. They have entire management of the revenues of this rich county. They contract for and erect all our bridges and control our roads, ditches, etc. Their present responsibility is enormous. They have made no pledges of reform in the management of the workhouse, nor have they expressed a determination to better its affairs. With their manifold duties they could give it but a divided attention. The board, on the other hand, is composed of professional and business men of high standing, and gives its entire attention to the one institution. It has passed the experimental stage. Since the beginning of the year the workhouse has been self-supporting, and many of the inmates are engaged on contract work of a permanent and profitable character. Can it be possible that anyone would desire the credit of more prosperous conditions at the expense of the reputations of the present board?

Let us have no further experiments. Conditions are improving and there are prospects of continued improvement. Experience counts for much. Let well enough alone.

A REPUBLICAN AND A TAXPAYER.

AIMED AT CANTON.

A Bill to Affect the Tenderloin District.

LOCAL OPTION IN CITY WARDS.

Senator Williams Introduces a Bill Obstinately For Canton's Fourth Ward But It Might Affect All Up-Town Saloons.

Columbus, Feb. 8.—(Special.)—Senator Williams introduced a bill in the legislature yesterday that is of special interest in Canton. The bill provides for local option elections in wards of cities as well as in townships. It is known that the bill was drafted with special reference to Canton and that it is hoped to drive the undesirable dives out of the Fourth ward. Incidentally other wards will be affected. A well known reform agitator from Canton was in Columbus a day or two ago and said he had confidence that the temperance people could win in the Seventh and First wards, which would wipe out every up town saloon.

MYRIADS OF RODENTS.

The Country West of Massillon Infested and Exterminating Parties Are at Work.

North Industry is not alone in the rat hunting enterprise. The country west of Massillon is overrun with rats. Hunting parties have been organized, and every night hundreds are killed. A club of fifty-four young men killed 10,786 rats in thirty days, and they have the tails of every victim as evidence. Great damage to the garnered crops has already been done by these myriads of rodents.

Will Talk It Over.

The board of education held a regular meeting in the superintendent's office at the high school building last evening. President Kennedy being absent, Vice President Young filled the chair. Minutes were read and approved.

Superintendent Day asked the board if he should proceed to exclude scholars from the city schools who lived in Canton township beyond the school limits. Member Bachtel stated that in conversation with Mr. Roth of the township board that gentleman had stated that the board desired to be fair in the matter and he requested that the city board meet with the township board at 1 o'clock Wednesday, February 21. On motion of Mr. Bachtel it was agreed to meet the township board at the time, and the clerk was instructed to so notify the township board. In the meantime, the scholars from the country districts will continue to attend the city schools.

Death of Miss Ola Hamilton.

Miss Ola Hamilton died at the hospital this morning. She was 28 years of age. Funeral services at the residence of Mrs. Snyder, 315 South Walnut street Thursday afternoon at 2:30. Interment in Westlawn.

After years of untold suffering from piles, B. W. Porcell, of Kottersville, Pa., was cured by using a single box of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. Skin diseases such as eczema, rash, pimples, and obstinate sores are readily cured by this famous remedy. E. C. Miller, East End Pharmacy, P. P. Shanahan, Fisher's drug store.

DE LOME'S LETTER.

It Produces a Crisis in the Spanish Affair.

A CAREFUL INVESTIGATION

Will Be Made and if He Wrote the Letter He Will Be Sent Back Home for Repairs to His Manners.

Washington, Feb. 9.—(Special.)—No attempt is being made in the state department to deny the imminence of a crisis in Cuban affairs, as especially relates to the relations of this country and Spain. Senor De Lome, the Spanish minister, is vehement in his denial of the genuineness of the letter reputed to have been written by him to a friend in Havana. A committee is on its way from the Cuban Junta in New York to lay before the President proofs of the authenticity of the letter, in which the President was referred to as a pot-house politician. The Junta claims to have positive proof that the letter was written by De Lome. He will certainly be given his passports if the letter can be traced to him. That would still further emphasize the strained relations, for De Lome would kick up as much of a fuss as possible. Nothing will be done until the facts are known, and if it is found that the letter was not written by him nothing will be said about it. In the meantime it is known that both nations are preparing for war or any condition that may spring from the negotiations now going on.

GARFIELD LAW.

SENATOR BRAMLEY ANXIOUS TO HAVE IT REPEALED.

He Introduces a Bill to That Effect Which Senator Garfield Will Try Hard to Defeat.

The Garfield law governing election expenditures has been discussed in all its phases, and readers of the News-Democrat are able to form an opinion of its merit without suggestion. It is of interest to note that in the Ohio senate yesterday Mr. Bramley arose and asked leave to introduce a bill. Permission was granted and the bill was read. It provided for the repeal of the now celebrated "corrupt practice act," introduced by Senator Garfield and passed two years ago. It is the law which requires candidates to make sworn statements of all their election expenses.

Mr. Bramley said: "I think the law ought to be repealed because it has been a complete failure and because it puts a premium on perjury." Senator Garfield will fight the repeal of the law and will present statistics to show that it has been effective in a reasonable degree. In a recent conversation concerning the measure he said: "It would be really difficult to estimate the good that the bill has accomplished, in the opportunity it has given for the evasion of the demands so often made upon candidates. The corrupt practices bill has furnished a convenient shield behind which the honest man could hide without incurring himself politically by a direct refusal to furnish money for political purposes."

GOD A NEGRO.

That is the Instruction Given by a Bishop of the African Methodist Church.

Philadelphia, Feb. 9.—(Special.)—The Philadelphia Tribune quotes Bishop Turner of the A. M. E. church as follows: "We know that God dug this universe out of black and that black chaos reigned millions, billions, trillions, quadrillions and eons of years before God ever said 'Let there be light' or let there be white. We believe God himself is a negro. I have no respect for any negro who does not believe that the God he serves and worships is a negro."

DON'T LIKE THE SAMPLE.

Trousers Makers Think the Grade of Prosperity is Not Up to the Standard.

New York, Feb. 9.—(Special.)—About 3,000 trousers makers of New York, Brooklyn and Brownsville went on a strike yesterday for an advance in wages. They claim that they had to work 16 hours a day, getting from \$5 to \$9 per week as wages.

CONVICT LABOR.

A Bill Aimed to Do Away With It Is Offered in the House.

Columbus, Feb. 9.—(Special.)—Mr. Bramley offered a joint resolution in the house yesterday which is of the utmost importance. It provides that while the general assembly is considering the various bills for abolishing the prison contract system "no contract shall be entered into or no contract be received by the manager or managers of any penal institution whatever within the state for a period of time exceeding six months from the adoption of this resolution."

Mr. Bramley explained that since the agitation in favor of abolishing the system had begun, a number of managers

had set themselves up to thwart the will of the general assembly by entering into new contracts for long terms of years. He spoke of the case in Cincinnati, where the manager of the workhouse renewed a contract which did not expire until next November, for ten years. If all the managers of penal and reformatory institutions in the state should do this, the legislature would be powerless to abolish the system, as it cannot violate the contracts. The resolution was adopted under a suspension of the rules. No sooner had the vote on the resolution been adopted than Mr. McGilchey of Tuscarawas offered another relating to the same subject and increasing the number of members of the penitentiary investigating committee from five to eight. He said the laboring men of the state are anxious that the committee be a representative one. The resolution was adopted and the additional members of the committee will be appointed today.

AN ABOLITIONIST

WANTS THE THING DONE RIGHT IF AT ALL.

He Thinks a Rule is No Good if It Will Not Apply Where Expense is Highest.

Editor News-Democrat:—Eliminating verbiage, the sole contention of those who are making an attempt to abolish the workhouse board is that the commissioners pay the bills and should therefore have the sole management of the institution. Attention has been called to the fact that the commissioners must finally pass on all infirmity bills and if the rule is valid it should prevail in this regard. Abolish the infirmity board.

Attention is also called to the fact that the board of trustees of the Fairmount children's home is under the direction of the commissioners of the two counties interested and that the commissioners must pay all bills, though having nothing to do with their contraction. That comes under the new rule that they are trying to adopt. Abolish the Fairmount children's home board.

There is a good deal of expense attached to the conduct of the county jail, though, like the workhouse, infirmity and children's home, it is being conducted as economically as is possible. But the commissioners must pay all bills, whether they have anything to do with contracting them or not. The proposed rule ought to apply. Abolish the county jail.

It is understood that the Stark county courts are a source of great expense. In fact, an extra court was provided for the county without any provision having been made for the extra expense entailed. The county commissioners are not consulted as to the number of witnesses that are called, the number of jurors required, the number of bailiffs in attendance nor the means of stationery or number of lights used. It is even reported that Judge McCarty ordered a special grand jury called recently, entailing an extra expense but acting within the exigencies of the occasion, and that he forgot to consult Mr. Summer about it. A long trial was had at a time when court would not ordinarily have been in session, thus increasing the expense of that current year. The courts go right along meeting out justice, but the commissioners, having nothing whatever to say about the expenditure must pay all the bills. Surely it is a poor rule that would not circumscribe this case as well. Abolish the courts.

SUGAR BEETS.

Seeds Will Be Furnished Free to Those Who Will Plant Them and Await Results.

There is a communication at the mayor's office in Massillon from T. W. Rutz of Cleveland who is very anxious to have the farmers of that vicinity engage in the cultivation of the sugar beet. He offers to furnish seed free of charge to persons having land along the canal who will agree to plant it. He asks that only a small quantity be placed in the ground this spring. After the beets are fully grown a chemical analysis will be made and if they are found to possess the necessary properties arrangements will be made for their production on a large scale.

HE IS WELCOME.

A Prominent Buggy Maker Takes Hold of the Canton Buggy Works.

D. L. Tschantz, of Orville, has rented the Canton Buggy Company's plant, purchased the stock, and is starting the work anew. The factory is one of the best equipped in the state and Mr. Tschantz will not only add to that equipment, but his experience will make it possible for him to turn out an excellent class of work. His father was a buggy maker and he was virtually brought right up in the business.

The name Canton Buggy Company will not be changed, but Mr. Tschantz will make a superior product under the old firm name. He is a welcome addition to the list of Canton manufacturers.

It is never too late to mend the liquor habit. Anti-Metha destroys the appetite for strong drink. Write for pamphlet, sent in plain sealed envelope. Address Penn Home Cure Co., St. Louis, Mo., or call on Samuel E. Barr, Agent.

LOCAL LEGISLATION.

The House Committee Decides Against It.

TENDS TO CREATE DISRUPTION.

Not Likely That the Stark County Bills Introduced or Contemplated Will Have Easy Sailing When They Reach the House.

There is not now so great a chance for various bills of a purely local character to pass the house at Columbus. The judiciary committee of that body issued the slogan yesterday when it reported adversely to a number of bills that did not affect the interests of the whole state. The Stark county board of elections bill is one that may be taboed, because of the division of Republican sentiment with reference to the expediency of such a measure. It is believed, also, that time is being wasted by those who are passing petitions calling for the abolition of the workhouse board. In passing on the question of local bills yesterday the committee based its considerations not alone on the fact of the local character of the proposed legislation, but took cognizance of the fact that wherever local legislation was being attempted there was an attendant difference of opinion among Republicans. That fact was deprecated as tending to disrupt, and as the committee is Republican it is not likely that a bill abolishing a Republican board containing men of such high character and standing in the party will ever attain to even a favorable report.

THE PETITION FAKE

GETS A BLOW FROM THE OHIO STATE SENATE.

Indiscriminate Signing of Election Petitions Will No Longer Be Permitted—A Sensible Bill.

A matter of considerable interest to the people of Stark county came before the Ohio senate yesterday. The abuse of the privilege of nominating by petition was so notorious last fall that the senate passed with only one dissenting vote Senator Pugh's bill providing that no one who has assisted either by nominating convention or by petition in the nomination of a political ticket shall be eligible as a signer to a petition for any other ticket but must agree to support the candidates whose petition he signs. Mr. Pugh said that in Franklin county last fall one candidate for representative obtained 330 signatures to his petition and got a place on the official ballot, but at the election received only 25 votes. Experiences in Stark county have gone far beyond that. One instance is recalled in which a candidate for congress got several hundred signatures to his petition, but at the election got but one vote.

MAY PASS THROUGH.

Louisville Grants a Franchise to the Stark Electric Railway at a Council Meeting.

The town council of Louisville passed an ordinance Monday evening granting a franchise to the Stark electric street railway to pass through the village.

PROBATE COURT.

Estate of Benjamin F. Halliday, Canton township; final account filed.
Estate of William M. Patton, Canton township; final account filed.
Estate of W. C. Grant, Hiram township; exception to final account of Venzo Grant, executor, filed and continued.
Estate of Nancy Umbenhour, Massillon; final account filed.

Estate of Nancy McClarran, Alliance; application to probate will continued.
Estate of P. Scherer, Osnaburg township; Edwin H. Scherer and Calvin Hershberger appointed administrators.
Estate of Daniel Schroyer, Pike township; Calvin Seemann appointed administrator.

Estate of Louise Miller, Canton; appointment ordered.
Estate of John Patton, Canton; will admitted to probate; citation to widow to elect ordered.

Guardianship of B. F. Seefort, Perry township; private sale of ward's real estate ordered.

Estate of H. C. Blum, Canton; final account filed.

Assignment of Evan M. Evans, Canton; inventory and appraisement filed.

Assignment of Lamborn & Gray, Alliance; exceptions to fourth account sustained and decree entered.

Estate of Wm. Baugh, Lake township; time extended one year from Jan. 11, 1898, for final settlement. Same in case of John A. Black, Massillon.

Estate of Samuel Kayler, Alliance; time extended one year for final settlement.

Guardianship of Augustus Ritterspaugh, Canton; bond filed and approved.

Guardianship of Augustus Dewalt, Lake township; final account filed.

Estate of Martin Shively, Paris township; new bond filed and approved.

Estate of Mary E. Huber, Canton; will filed for probate.

Estate of Michael Miller, Washington township; inventory and appraisement filed.

Assignment of George W. Sponseller, Plain township; proceedings for sale of real estate. On his own motion Abraham Sponseller granted leave to file amended cross petition instant.

Guardianship of Catherine McFarren, Perry township; fourth partial account filed.

Guardianship of Elizabeth Noaker, Perry township; ninth partial account filed.

Guardianship of Walter H. McAnany et al., Canton; appraisement of ward's real estate filed and approved; bond filed and approved; private sale of real estate ordered.

Estate of John E. Fearn, Paris township; final distributive account filed.

Assignment of Isador Lefkowitz, Canton; final account filed.

Assignment of A. Diebold, Canton; City National Bank granted leave to file amended answer and cross petition of assignee for sale of real estate.

Estate of John Patton, Canton; Thomas B. Albert appointed executor.

Assignment of Luther M. Barick, Canton; inventory and appraisement filed. Petition for sale of real estate and to adjust liens filed.

Assignment of Samuel Wolf, Plain township; final dividend of six percent ordered.

Estate of Elias Ellett, Lexington township; time extended one year from Dec. 2, 1897, for final settlement.

Guardianship of Walter H. McAnany et al., Canton; sale of real estate confirmed; deed ordered.

Assignment of Frank Gastel, Alliance; motion to vacate former order to pay 17 percent dividend granted, exception taken and bond ordered.

Estate of John S. Youtz, Nimishillen township; will filed for probate.

Estate of Charles G. Kuntze, Lexington township; will filed for probate.

Estate of Walter E. Walker, Paris township; final account filed.

Assignment of Beuchat & Son, Louisville; bond filed and approved. A. L. Juillard appointed trustee for benefit of creditors.

Guardianship of Richard L. Trump, Canton; petition to sell ward's real estate filed. Continued for hearing to Feb. 18 and notice ordered.

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REFEREE CHOSEN.

Mr. Turene Meyer Will Hear the Testimony

IN A VERY COMPLICATED CASE.

Circuit Court Comes Next Tuesday and Reconsiders Concerning Judge Pomeroy's Denial Will Then Be Presented—Court N. W.

The case of Mary E. Zettler vs. A. Hammerly was begun in court room No. 1 Wednesday morning before Judge McCarty and a jury. The suit is for \$1,500 alleged due on a property deal. It transpired that liens had been paid and advances in small sums paid in such a way as to make the case a complicated one for a jury to determine upon. It was therefore decided that the case should be tried to a referee. Judge McCarty appointed Mr. Turene Meyer, who was in the court room, and the case was taken up by him in court room No. 3 this afternoon.

Circuit court will convene in Canton next Tuesday. There are forty-three cases to be heard, and a two weeks session will probably be required. Judge M. L. Smyser, appointed by Governor Bushnell, will preside in place of the late Judge J. C. Pomeroy.

A committee appointed for the purpose at the time of Judge Pomeroy's death will present resolutions of the Stark county bar at the first session of circuit court.

John Sheard has sued Mary L. Piero et al. to recover \$1,000 alleged due on notes and secured by mortgage.

The case of Anna Calderhead vs. Jane Fluch's administrator was commenced in court room No. 2 this afternoon before Judge Taylor and a jury. It is a suit for \$86 alleged due plaintiff for services in caring for deceased prior to her death.

The jury in the \$2,000 damage case of Maurer's administrator vs. Wardwell, receiver of the C. & S. railway company, retired Monday afternoon about 3:30. They remained out all night and this morning about 9:30 returned a verdict for the plaintiff in the sum of \$300.

The case of August Hinton's administrator against the Canton-Massillon Electric Railway Company was set for special trial in court room No. 2 Monday.

Another case occupied the attention of the court first, and during the day the Hinton case was settled. The railway company pays Andrew Hinton, the father of little August Hinton who was run over in front of the North Cleveland avenue parochial school in November, 1896, the sum of \$500. This settles a \$10,000 damage case. Hon. J. B. Snyder and Welty & Albough represented plaintiff.

NEW CASES.

H. A. Canavan has brought an action against Charles A. Biehle to recover on a note for \$407 secured by mortgage.

Clara J. Burrell has sued John Berre for divorce and alimony. Plaintiff alleges drunkenness and abuse.

VAULT RECEIVED HIM.

The Funeral of Louis J. Miday Attended by Hundreds of Canton Citizens

The funeral of Mr. Louis J. Miday was largely attended Tuesday morning. The service was held in St. John's English Catholic church at 9 o'clock. Rev. Father Maguire conducting. The pallbearers were: Messrs. J. W. Pontius, J. J. Clark, Judge H. A. Wise, H. H. Miller, Paul Gebweid, A. Dannenmiller, William Stuart, Joseph H. Dumoulin. Miss Sarah Levin sang a beautiful solo during the services. Flowers in profusion covered the casket of the deceased, a beautiful floral piece, "The Broken Column," being presented by the Canton Lodge of Elks, who attended in a body. The remains of the deceased were placed in the Winterhalter vault in St. John's cemetery temporarily, pending the construction of a new Miday family vault.

MRS. ELIZA HORTON